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SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 9 December 1992, the General Assembly adopted resolution 47/43, entitled "Scientific and technological developments and their impact on international security". In this resolution, the General Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to continue to follow scientific and technological developments in order to make an assessment of emerging "new technologies" and to submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

II. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

3. As regards implementing the request contained in General Assembly resolution 47/43, it should be recalled that, by resolution 45/62 B of 4 December 1990, the Assembly included the item "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields" in the working agenda of the Disarmament Commission. Detailed discussion took place on this subject in 1991, 1992 and 1993. While agreement was reached on most aspects of the issues addressed, 1/ further deliberation will be undertaken during 1994 with a view to concluding the item.

4. In view of the above, the Secretary-General is of the opinion that it would be premature for any further action to be taken at this stage.

5. It should, nevertheless, be noted that some aspects of the activities referred to in the report of the Secretary-General on the relationship between disarmament and development 2/ also cover certain considerations that show how scientific and technological developments have an impact on international security.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42).

2/ A/48/400.